

**From:** Gail Beddow  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/24/02 3:16pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Anti-Trust Settlement

I received a mailing giving this as the e-mail address to which send comments on the proposed Microsoft settlement. The organization gave the following as the mailing address (just to make clear for whom this message is intended):

Renata Hesse  
Trial Attorney  
Antitrust Division  
Department of Justice  
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200  
Washington, DC 20530

The organization encouraged me to support the settlement, but I do not.

I sent this letter to the Illinois Attorney-General last November:

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I have been a software developer for over thirty years. I can assure you that Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson's findings of fact in the Microsoft Anti-Trust case were entirely correct. I IMPLY you not to agree to the latest proposed settlement.

The core of the case is that Microsoft has mis-used its dominance of the operating system market to exclude competitors from the applications software market. Their contention that an Internet browser is properly part of the operating system, rather than an independent application, is preposterous. Their deliberately non-standard implementation of Sun's licensed Java language, designed to make competitors' software unusable under Microsoft's operating systems, is outrageous. Their practice of incorporating independly-developed applications into later releases of their own products without compensation to originators (not addressed in the suit, and widely-believed in the software community to be accomplished by reverse-engineering) is deplorable.

The net effect of their depredations has been to decrease variety and increase costs in the applications market, to the detriment of the citizens of this state.

Again, I ask you to reject the latest proposed settlement.

Sincerely,

Gail Beddow

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